

July Meeting

Friday, July 20—7:30 pm

Our Saviour's Lutheran Church

1035 Carol Lane

Lafayette, CA

V.E. Testing

Prior to the meeting from 6–7 PM.

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President's QRM

by Marty Heyman, W6MDH



Field Day on top of Mount Diablo was terrific. The weather was great, the park people were terrific, and a good time was had by all. The parking lot is a bit of a challenge as there are not very many tall trees so stringing wire is something of a challenge. But our intrepid wire stringers got wires up. I

learned a new (dis)respect for antennas, watching them get cut and slung up, tuned, and used with abandon. It was great fun.

Thanks to all who contributed time and energy and made it a great event. Our Technician Class license study sessions start the 10th of July at the Salvation Army. I'm looking forward to a group of eager students. We have a number of confirmations already.

Editor's Exciter

by Jeremiah R. Blasi, K6BQ

Hot summer greetings to all! It's shaping up to be a hot, busy month.

I hope everyone enjoyed field day last month. Due to time constraints, I was not able to join W6CX on The Hill, but I was able to participate in another field day effort (No, I'm not a traitor, but this was much closer to my home, and easier to make time for!).

A ham buddy of mine, John Vargas, KI6BEN, has a ranch in Fremont that has been in his family for three generations (If you're familiar with I-680 driving through Fremont, you'll recognize Vargas

Road). As this year marked the 100 year anniversary of the ranch, John was able to acquire the special event callsign *W6V* for a Field Day effort. I was able to join him and a group of other friends for a while on Saturday afternoon.

W6V was classified 6A. Stations ranged from 160/QRP/CW through 2M/SSB. The effort was very well organized, with a good group of guys just out to have fun. At the top of the ridge was a good collection of vertical dipoles, a portable tower, and several wire antennas. The stations were powered by solar, batteries, and generators. Rigs ranged from an Elecraft K2 to Icom's 756PRO, with everything in between!

Although the group did not have an official GOTA station, two of my students were able to make their first HF contacts. David, KI6IQW, and Aaron, KI6IQV were both able to make several FD contacts on 2m and 20m. They got a real thrill from the fast moving contest operating, and had their appetites whetted to spend more time on the air.

Just as a side note, according to the logbook, W6V contacted W6CX on 40m/CW, 20m/SSB, 10m/SSB, and 2m/SSB.

Enjoy your summer, and stay on the bright side by remembering that since we're at the bottom of the suspost cycle, there's no place to go but up!

Mt. Diablo Amateur Radio Club W6CX

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The Carrier is a monthly publication of the Mount Diablo Amateur Radio Club (MDARC). It is the policy of the editor to publish all material submitted by the membership provided such material is in good taste, relevant to amateur radio and of interest to MDARC members, and space is available. All material must be submitted to the editor by the last day of the month prior to publication. Material is accepted on a first-in, first-out basis. Articles and other material may be submitted via Internet email to carrier@mdarc.org or delivered to the editor at the address listed in the club roster. Material will be accepted in plain ASCII or rich text format (RTF). Material may also be submitted as hardcopy.

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W6CX Repeaters

147.060/+ (100 PL)
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ATV: In 1289.25 Out 427.25, 1241.25
APRS: 144.39
TCP/IP: 145.71

MDARC Club Meeting Minutes

June 15, 2007

Our Saviour's Lutheran Church, 1035 Carol Lane, Lafayette, CA

President Marty Heyman, W6MDH, opened the meeting on time with the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

11 VE tests were given tonight with some of those tested coming from the recent license class sponsored by the club. A Technician/entry-level class will start on July 11 at 7:00 pm at the Salvation Army in Concord.

The Treasurer reported that the Club had \$4,207.16 in the checking account and \$46,824.90 in CD's.

Don Anthony, who has been handling the refreshments at the meeting, asked for some feedback as to what people might be interested in having at the meeting.

The Carrier has not yet been distributed this month.

The power has been reduced to less than 5 watts on the 440 repeater to comply with a request from the Department of Defense.

Trevor announced that preparations are moving forward for Field Day on Mt. Diablo. He would like to have some additional band captains for 15 and 75 meters. He encouraged everyone who would like to operate during Field Day to come up and have fun. There is an entry fee for those people that don't have a State Parks membership.

Respectfully submitted,

Dick Brown, KT6X

SIRARC Meeting Notice

The Sons In Retirement Amateur Radio Club (SIRARC) will be meeting on the Fourth Friday August 24, 2007 at Jonsey's Famous Steak House, 2044 Airport Road, Napa, Ca. 94558.

Anyone that has an interest in amateur radio is welcome at our meetings, including spouses, girl friends, significant others and friends.

We have reservations for about 12-15 at the back of the restaurant.

We arrive at around 1130 hours and are finished at around 1400 hours.

Find more information at www.qsl.net/w6zzt.

Technician Class

MDARC will be sponsoring a Technician class for new hams to study and get their license. This class will meet on Tuesday evenings beginning July 10 at the Salvation Army Corps on Clayton Road in Concord.

For more information & to sign up, contact Marty Heyman, W6MDH, at w6mdh@arrl.net. This is a great opportunity to encourage a friend to get his/her ticket!

2007 Radio Communication Events

Pete Harris, KE6ZIW

MDARC Public Service Coordinator

Alcatraz Challenge Swim

San Francisco Waterfront and Bay
August 5, 2007
Radio Coordinator: _____

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HAM RADIO

CONVENTION

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 Activities



PACIFICON Advance Registration Information

The deadline for hotel advance reservations is October 4, 2007. The banquet and breakfast will sell out early. Order now! *Purchase convention tickets on-line at www.pacificcon.org*, or by using the form below. If using form below please enclose check or money order for full amount. Pick up tickets at the **PACIFICON** registration desk on arrival. If using form below and you want tickets returned by mail **enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope**. To obtain the **PACIFICON 2007** hotel rate of \$84 per night (single/double) call the San Ramon Marriott Hotel to make reservations at 1-800-228-9290 (mention **PACIFICON 2007** to get this rate).

Advance Registration Form

PACIFICON 2007, October 19-21, 2007

Please type or print name and address

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PACIFICON admission _____ @ \$10 = \$ _____
 (\$15.00 at the door)

Antenna Seminar _____ @ \$10 = \$ _____
 (Friday only)

Opening Breakfast _____ @ \$14 = \$ _____

Banquet (Saturday eve) - *How many?* _____

Beef @ \$39 = \$ _____

Chicken @ \$39 = \$ _____

TOTAL = \$ _____

*Include self-addressed stamped #10 envelope
 if ticket return by mail is desired*

PACIFICON admission does not include Friday Antenna & legal Seminars, Saturday Opening Breakfast or Saturday Banquet.

Make check payable to: **PACIFICON 2007**

Mail To: **PACIFICON 2007**

P.O. Box 272613

Concord, CA 94527

Box? What Box?

Presenting Amateur Radio in a New Light

by Alan Pitts, W1AGP

ARRL Media & PR Manager

"In times of change, learners inherit the earth while the learned find themselves beautifully equipped to work in a world that no longer exists."—Eric Hoffer

In a market-driven, corporate society such as ours, Amateur Radio is an anachronism. Sure, we use modern communications tools, but the whole concept of ham radio is out of step with the majority of the culture. We don't just think out of the box—we don't even have a box.

Let me explain.

Our world is set up so that marketable ideas are generated by companies who then immediately

patent them as their own. They take the idea and put it into a box. They sell you that box with a set of instructions on how you are to use it. Any alteration or other use at least voids the warranty and might even get you into patent infringement hassles.

Consider the new Apple PDA-phone thingy or the coming new Windows OS. Watch the way it is marketed and sold this month. They pitch it to you, tell you what you can do, and make sure it is sealed up well. You plunk down your money and walk out with the new item—registered, patented, closed and boxed. It's as if it is still more theirs than yours. Then they can give you "updates."

This is good corporate strategy. It keeps corporate profits up, maintains a market, and kills creativity.

But Amateur Radio is, by its very nature, quite different. You don't just buy a license, you learn it. Yes, you

can buy a radio in a box—but then what? There are many other parts and pieces to each system, many variations, many philosophies on how to create a station. It's "open software" and unbridled tinkering—the very antithesis of corporate thinking! There is no box. Instead there is the merry chaos of multiple modes, types of radios, antennas, bands, operating styles and goals, and the incessant itch to change something inside just to see what we can make it do. Corporate systems try to maintain product lines. Truly imaginative creations come out of basements and attics.

As you [promote our great hobby], keep this in mind as it helps to position Amateur Radio in a new light.

[This article taken from the July 2007 issue of Contact, available at <http://www.arrl.org/pio/contact/2007/07/>.]

SFARC/MDARC Campout Pictures

June, 2007



Liz, KG6HLV, cookin' it RARE!



Doin' what hams do best



George, W0WEB, demonstrating fire worship.



Bill, WA6NPC, spending quality time with the radio.

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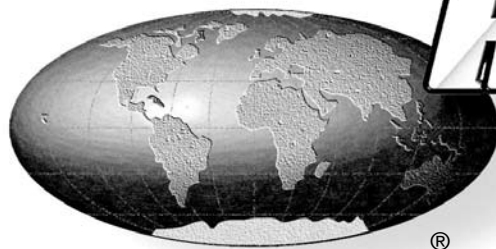
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MDARC Club Net

Thursday 8:00 pm

General ATV Net

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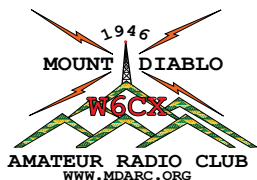
East County 146.535 Simplex
Drew Hanson, KD6GLY

South County 146.355/+ (100 PL)
Ed Ritchie, K6SFD

West County 145.110/-
Steve Adams, KF6WNH

July Events

<i>July 10</i>	7:00 pm	Technician Class begins <i>Salvation Army, Clayton Rd., Concord</i>
<i>July 20</i>	7:30 pm	MDARC Monthly Meeting <i>Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Lafayette</i>
<i>July 31</i>		July Carrier Deadline
<i>August 6</i>	7:00 pm	MDARC Board Meeting <i>Fuddrucker's, 1940 N. Main St., Walnut Creek</i>



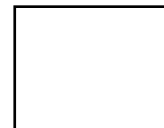
The Carrier

Newsletter of the Mt. Diablo Amateur Radio Club

P.O. Box 23222

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Next meeting: July 20
